

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 29, with the following amended paragraph.

Suitable materials are preferably flexible, and may be fabric, non-woven or woven polymeric webs, polymer films, hydrocolloids, foam, metallic foils, paper, and/or combinations thereof. More specifically, cotton gauze is useful with the silver compositions of the present invention. For certain embodiments it is desirable to use a permeable (e.g., with respect to moisture vapor), open apertured substrate (i.e., a scrim). For certain embodiments it is desirable to use an open- or closed-cell foam, such as that disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6548727. For certain embodiments, the substrate may be a hydrocolloid, such as a hydrophilic polymer, or hydrophobic polymer matrix containing hydrophilic particles, as described in applicants' copending applications, Ser. No. [] 10/728,577, Attorney Docket No. 57260US003 filed on December 5, 2003, and Ser. No. [] 10/728,439, Attorney Docket No. 59405US002 filed on December 5, 2003, both of which are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 16, with the following amended paragraph.

In certain embodiments, the coated substrates of the present invention are nonadherent, although it should be understood that an adhesive (e.g., a pressure sensitive adhesive) could be added to an article coated with the solution. As used herein, the silver compositions of the present invention when coated on a substrate do not adhere significantly to wound tissue such that they do not cause pain and/or destruction of the wound tissue upon removal and display a 180° peel strength of less than 1 N/cm from steel, as described in applicants' copending application, Ser. No. [] 10/729,114, Attorney Docket No. 59098US002 filed on December 5, 2003, incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1, with the following amended paragraph.

In another embodiment, the backing or support substrate can be composed of nonadherent material. For example, a nonadherent hydrophilic polymer can be used as the backing or support material, or coated on a permeable porous substrate, as described in applicants' copending applications, Ser. No. [] 10/728,577, Attorney Docket No. 57260US003 filed on December 5, 2003; Ser. No. [] 10/729,114, Attorney Docket No. 59098US002 filed on December 5, 2003; and Ser. No. [] 10/728,439, Attorney Docket No. 59405US002 filed on December 5, 2003.